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Application Serial No.: 10/742,304
Amendment and Response to August 28, 2007 Non-Final Office Action**REMARKS**

Claims 1 – 23 are in the application. Claims 1, 6 – 8, 12, 13, 18 – 20, and 23 are currently amended; claims 24 – 34 are canceled, and claims 2 – 5, 9 – 11, 14 – 17, 21, and 22 remain unchanged from the original versions thereof. Claims 1, 8, and 13 are the independent claims herein.

No new matter has been added to the application as a result of the amendments submitted herewith. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claim Objections

Claims 6, 8 – 12, 18, 20 – 23, 29, and 31 – 34 were objected to for including informalities therein. In particular, claims 6, 18 – 12, 18, 20 – 23, 29, and 31 – 34 were objected to for reciting “an other telephone”. The Office Action suggested replacing the subject phrase with “another telephone”.

In reply to the suggested amendment, claims 6, 8, 12, 18, 20, and 23 are currently amended to replace -- an other telephone -- with “another telephone”. Applicant therefore submits that the objections to the claims are overcome.

Applicant requests the reconsideration and withdrawal of the claim objects.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 102

Claims 1 – 34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Brahm et al., U.S. Patent No. 7,103,167. This rejection is traversed.

Claims 24 – 34 are canceled as a result of the amendments submitted herewith. Accordingly, the rejection of claims 24 – 34 is moot.

Applicant notes that independent claims 1, 8, 13, and 20 each recite a telephone and a computing device coupled to the telephone. The claims further recite that the

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computing device selectively routes the telephone call to (or from) the telephone based on user-specified rules. For this and all other aspects of the claims, the Office cites and relies upon Brahm. In particular, the Office Action relies on the Brahm disclosed "called party's computer 110 and client 116" as evidence of the claimed computing device that selectively routes calls to or from the telephone.

Applicant notes however that the Brahm terminal 110 (and client application 116) does not in fact selectively route call signals to or from the telephone 112. Instead, Brahm discloses it is the Internet Answering Machine (IAM) 124 that routes the calls. For example, Brahm clearly states,

The IAM system 124 optionally hosts a Web site used by subscribers of the IAM service to setup and manage their accounts, to view information about incoming calls, and to instruct the IAM system 124 on how to route incoming calls to one or more destination stations. Many of these same functions can be implemented by the Client application 116 as well. (emphasis added)

Thus, it is clear that IAM 124 routes the calls contrary to the rejection asserted by the Office Action.

Further, while Brahm states that many of the functions of 124 can be implemented by client application 116, Applicant notes that the aspect of routing the calls does not appear to be one of the functions client application 116 does, in fact, implement. This fact is seen from the subsequent portions of the Brahm disclosure wherein client application 116 is disclosed as, for example, streaming speech (col. 9, ln. 14 – 18; displaying visual notifications (col. 10, ln. 21 – 23); playing a message (col. 10, ln. 63 – 64); and terminating an online session (col. 13, ln. 27 – 29). Again, terminal 110 or client application 116 is not disclosed as selectively routing a telephone call as claimed.

Applicant further notes that Brahm does not disclose or suggest the claimed aspect of the telephone having another telephone associated with the telephone. For example, Applicant's claimed telephone and another telephone are discussed and illustrated by telephone 30 and handsets 95 and 100 that are associated with telephone

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95 and 100. It is noted that the associated telephones are not merely telephones on a network (e.g., WAN, LAN, Web, etc.).

Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that all of the claimed aspects of the pending claims 1 – 23 are not disclosed by the cited and relied upon Brahm.

Accordingly, Applicant requests the reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1 – 23 under 35 USC 102(e).

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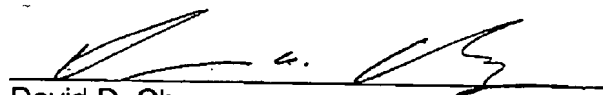
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CONCLUSION

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of the pending claims. If any issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions for expediting allowance of the present application, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned via telephone at (408) 492-5336.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date


David D. Chung
Registration No. 38,409
Direct Dial: (408) 492-5336

SIEMENS CORPORATION
Customer Number: 28524
Intellectual Property Department
170 Wood Avenue South
Iselin, New Jersey 08830

Attn: Elsa Keller, Legal Department